To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records appeals 6/20/75
Gordon Novel - 7D claims

Attached is 62-109060-3078. It has a General Investigative Division note that is on a printed form headed "Informative Note." In this instance I believe it is informative. It begins with a withholding relating to Gordon Novel. The claim is 7D. I appeal this withholding.

It cannot be sole source information that is withheld.

For some time I have been interested in the welcome given to Novel by various FBI field offices at the time he was a fugitive. The available FBI reports abound in unquestioned detail of what is attributed to him. (In the case of this serial his information was sent to the Director.) I believe offices were given advance notice of his coming by other offices.

Novel was a major diversion with Garrison. In fact he was a virtual operation against Garrison, who required no misdirection, providing more than enough of his own.

The clear inference of this withholding is that Novel was an informant, not just a source. (He claimed publicly that he had a CIA connection.) If the inference is not justified disclosure can establish that and the withholding would have been no more than one of thousands of prior improper withholdings.

On the other hand, if there was intrusion by any federal authority into a local prosecution and situation I believe there is no sanction for protection.

From the public press it appears that no harm will come to Novel from Garrison, because they had made up and Garrison has provided him with legal representation.

What I do not recall seeing in the N.O. files is any account of the leaking of Garrison's military medical records to Novel's lawyer. An internal investigation was promptly announced and as promptly forgotten. The leak had to be from a federal source. If there is a "previously processed" claim that does not enable learning any relevant information. I also appeal the withholding of these records, which may well be filed in other than the FBI's assassination files.